

FARNHILL PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF FARNHILL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 21ST NOVEMBER 2014 AT 11.30AM AT KILDWICK /FARNHILL INSTITUTE.

PRESENT Counc. G Harling (Chairman), Counc. D Atkinson, M Scarffe & J Waring, Clerk S Harding-Hill & 4 members of the public.

196/14 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public who attended the meeting expressed concerns about the clearance work that was being carried out at the Arbour.

One of the concerns was the possibility that if the area was cleared of the brambles and ivy, any heavy rainfall would run off the surface due to the steepness of the ground and run into the properties below. The other concern was the effect that the clearance work would have on the wildlife.

The Parish Council responded to the concerns stating that the area was not to be stripped of all brambles and vegetation it was tidying up the area and cutting back the brambles in preparation for planting of shrubs and trees which were suitable for the area. The Council had taken professional advice on a planting scheme which they believe would satisfy the needs of the majority of residents by introducing plants that look attractive and attract more wildlife, but are low maintenance.

A member of the public requested that the Parish Council publish a more detailed plan of work for the Arbour, but the Parish Council explained that it was difficult to work to a definite plan as it is difficult to predict the rate of growth due to fluctuations in the weather.

The Parish Council stressed that any work that took place was agreed beforehand at the Parish Council meetings which were open to members of the public and decisions were recorded in the minutes and published in the notice board and on the website. Members have been elected to represent the village and are doing their best to create a resource & facility that is a consensus view of what is required.

197/14 **COUNCILLORS APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** Counc.R Bramley

198/14 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Counc. J Waring expressed a personal interest in Minute No199/13b

199/13 ONGOING DEVELOPMENT OF THE ARBOUR

- a. The Parish Council employed a contractor to carry out some clearance work at the Arbour, but unfortunately the contractor's managed to complete approx half of the work before being disturbed by members of the public who were against the work being carried out. At this point the contractor's were advised by a member of the Parish Council to terminate the work till a mutual decision could be reached.
The contractor's confirmed that although it would cost them extra to complete the work due to having to make an extra journey, they would be prepared to complete the work at no extra cost with a little help from the Council.
Counc M Scarffe stated that he would finish the cutting back, but Clerk to ask the contractor's to remove the debris when the work is completed.
Counc D Atkinson thought that the Council would be better served if clear time bound costed plans were discussed and agreed and made available for the public to see in terms of any development.
- b. The Parish Council considered the Supply List of Plants recommended for the Arbour (Previously circulated and attached to minutes) taking into consideration the report provided by the horticulturist based on his visit to the Arbour. Taking into consideration the fact that the plants are to be provided at cost and that the supplier is willing to help and advice where to position the plants, is willing to keep the plants till required and is willing to take back any plants not required it was proposed and seconded that the Parish Council accept the plan and order the plants. A vote was taken by show of hands and 3 Councillors were in favour and 1 Councillor against. (Counc M Scarffe). It was therefore resolved to go ahead and order the plants. The plants will cost £629.50 + VAT and the money will come from money set aside in the budget for village improvements.
Members of the public accepted the decision of the Parish Council & volunteered to help with the planting once the plants arrived.
Counc M Scarffe stated that " The area behind Arbour House which contains about 40 trees/shrubs has an area of about 500 sq metres. The area of land cleared for planting adjacent to Hillbrow and Castle Gate has an area of about 140 sq metres. The proposal by Andrew Shaw is for upwards of 350 trees and shrubs in this area. That suggests gross overplanting. Of the 350, at least 130 are trees and that is utter madness."

200/13 **MINOR ITEMS OF BUSINESS & ITEMS TO GO ON THE AGENDA NEXT MONTH**

A request was made for Play Area Report to be put on the agenda next month.

Clerk S Harding-Hill

01.12.14